

January 13, 1999

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council

FROM: Mayor Neil G. Giuliano, Tempe, Chairman

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Meeting - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 20, 1999

MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room (see enclosed map)

302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

MAG Office, Suite 300

Please park in the garage under the Norwest Bank Building. Parking places will be reserved for Regional Council members on the first and second levels of the garage. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

The next Regional Council meeting will be held at the MAG offices at the time and place noted above. Members who wish to remove any items from the Consent Agenda are requested to contact the MAG office. MAG will host a progressive dinner/reception for the Regional Council members following the meeting in the MAG offices on the 3rd floor. Supporting information is enclosed for your review.

If you have any questions, please call the MAG office.

MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL
TENTATIVE AGENDA
January 20, 1999

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED

1. <u>Call to Order</u>	
2. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>	
3. <u>Approval of December 9 & 17, 1998 Meeting Minutes</u>	3. Review and approve December 9 & 17, 1998 meeting minutes.
4. <u>Call to the Audience</u> An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Regional Council for items that are not included on the agenda. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Regional Council requests an exception to this limit.	4. For information.
5. <u>Executive Director's Report</u> The MAG Executive Director will provide a report to the Regional Council on activities of general interest.	5. For information and discussion.
6. <u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u> Prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to comment on consent items that are being presented for action. Following the comment period, Council members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Consent items are marked with an asterisk.	6. For information, discussion and approval of the Consent Agenda.

* ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT

TRANSPORTATION ITEM

*7. <u>Red Letter Notifications</u> In June 1996, the Regional Council approved the revised Red Letter process. This process separates Red Letter notifications and advance acquisition requests. The modified process calls	7. For information and discussion.
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for Red Letter notifications received by MAG from ADOT to be placed on the consent agenda of the Transportation Review Committee, the Management Committee and the Regional Council for information and discussion only. Upon request they could be removed from the consent agenda and returned for action. For advance acquisition requests the process was modified to allow ADOT to proceed with advance right-of-way acquisitions up to \$5 million in the funded corridors. However, any change in funding limits for advance acquisitions would constitute a material cost increase as well as a change in freeway priorities and therefore would require review by the Fiscal Analysis Unit and action by the Management Committee and Regional Council.

*8. Amendment of Consultant Contract for Model Enhancements

The Regional Public Transportation Authority is providing funding to MAG to make enhancements to the MAG transportation mode choice model. This information will be used to support the Central Phoenix/East Valley Light Rail Transit preliminary engineering and environmental impact statement work effort and required documentation for the Federal Transit Administration. MAG currently has the firm Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas under contract to make enhancements to the mode choice model. The additional funding from the RPTA (\$100,000) would increase the current contract with Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas from \$183,000 to \$283,000. The Management Committee recommended amending the contract. Please refer to the enclosed material.

8. For information, discussion and approval to provide transportation model enhancements for the RPTA by amending the MAG contract with Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas to add \$100,000 which increases the total contract from \$183,000 to \$283,000.

ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD

VALLEY VISION 2025 UPDATE

9. Valley Vision 2025 Update

An update on the activities of the Valley Vision 2025 Committee will be provided to the members of the Regional Council.

9. For information and discussion.

TRANSPORTATION ITEMS

10. Transportation Planning/Programming Update

Staff will provide an update on the cooperative effort with the Arizona Department of Transportation to develop the Five Year Highway Construction Program and the Tentative Life Cycle Program for the MAG Freeway Program, following the December Special Regional Council meeting held with the State Transportation Board and the Pima Association of Governments.

10. For information and discussion.

11. Short Range Transit Plan

The Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP) is prepared and updated annually by Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA) for MAG. The plan's contents include an overview of the performance and operating characteristics of the public transit services provided in Maricopa County. The process for plan formulation included RPTA staff contacting each MAG member agency during the plan's development in an attempt to develop an accurate and complete plan. The degree of assistance provided by RPTA staff depends primarily on the status of each individual local plan. Some local governments had already developed local plans, while others were assisted with technical staff support including community involvement activities. The plan has been restructured significantly in the past three years at the directive of MAG Regional Council and Management Committee. The Management Committee recommended approval of the Short Range Transit Plan. Please refer to the enclosed material.

11. For information, discussion and approval of the Short Range Transit Plan contingent upon a finding of conformity by MAG of the TIP with the applicable state and Federal air quality implementation plans.

12A. MAG Fixed Guideway System Study: Draft Report

In May 1996, the MAG Regional Council approved undertaking the MAG Fixed Guideway System Study. The purpose of the Study is to analyze options for potential inclusion of a fixed guideway element in the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The Central Phoenix/East Valley Major Investment Study (MIS) and the Phoenix/Glendale MIS have proceeded in parallel with the system study. On December 1, 1998, the Transportation Review Committee recommended that the MAG Fixed Guideway System Study be accepted. The Study supports the conclusions of the Central Phoenix/East Valley (MIS) and the Phoenix/Glendale MIS, and provides

12A. For information, discussion and acceptance of the MAG Fixed Guideway System Study.

supporting material to update the transit element of the MAG LRTP. The Management Committee recommended accepting the MAG Fixed Guideway System Study. Please refer to the enclosed material.

12B. Central Phoenix/East Valley Major Investment Study

A Major Investment Study (MIS) has been completed for the Central Phoenix/East Valley corridor. The City of Phoenix, in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, MAG, the Regional Public Transportation Authority, and the cities of Tempe, Mesa, and Glendale, have undertaken a series of transportation studies to address travel demand and mobility in the region. The MIS was one component of the studies. The purpose of the Central Phoenix/East Valley MIS (CP/EV MIS) was to identify transportation improvements designed to reduce existing and future traffic congestion, improve mobility options, and provide transportation alternatives in the corridor linking central Phoenix with the cities of Tempe and Mesa. On December 1, 1998, the Transportation Review Committee recommended including the CP/EV MIS into the draft 1999 Update of the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan for an Air Quality Conformity Analysis subject to updating the transit funding plan. The CP/EV MIS recommends a 22 mile, at-grade light rail transit system extending from Central Avenue and Camelback Road in Phoenix to downtown Mesa. Downtown Phoenix and downtown Tempe would also be served by the system. The capital cost of the initial 20 mile section is estimated at \$326 million. The Management Committee recommended including the CP/EV MIS into the draft 1999 Update of the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan. Please refer to the enclosed material.

12C. Phoenix/Glendale Major Investment Study

The Phoenix/Glendale Major Investment Study (MIS) has been completed. The study area generally extends from Peoria Avenue to Camelback Road and from 19th Avenue to Grand Avenue. The City of Phoenix, in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, MAG, the Regional Public Transportation Authority, and the cities of Tempe, Mesa, and Glendale, have undertaken a series of transportation studies to address travel demand

12B. For information, discussion and approval to include the Central Phoenix/East Valley Major Investment Study in the draft 1999 Update of the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan for an air quality conformity analysis subject to updating the transit funding plan.

12C. For information, discussion and approval to include the Glendale/Phoenix Major Investment Study in the draft 1999 Update of the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan for an air quality conformity analysis subject to updating the transit funding plan.

and mobility in the region. The MIS was one component of the studies. The purpose of the Glendale/Phoenix MIS was to identify high capacity transportation investments that will improve mobility and provide transit options in the corridors linking Metrocenter and downtown Glendale with central Phoenix. A secondary purpose was to determine whether light rail transit planned in the Central Phoenix/East Valley corridor should be extended into the Phoenix/Glendale study area. On December 1, 1998, the Transportation Review Committee recommended including the Phoenix/Glendale MIS into the draft 1999 Update of the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan for an Air Quality Conformity Analysis subject to updating the transit funding plan. The Phoenix/Glendale MIS recommends the addition of two at-grade, light rail transit (LRT) corridors to the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan. The first corridor would extend from Central and Camelback in Phoenix to the Metro Center area. The second corridor would extend from 19th Avenue along Glendale Avenue to downtown Glendale. In total, a 12 mile LRT system is recommended at a cost of \$295 million. The Management Committee recommended including the Phoenix/Glendale MIS into the draft 1999 Update of the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan. Please refer to the enclosed material.

13. Update of the Maricopa Association of Governments Regional Aviation System Plan

As the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Phoenix Metropolitan Area, MAG is responsible for maintaining a regional aviation system plan (RASP) to meet the long term air transportation needs of the region in a safe and efficient manner. The first MAG RASP was adopted by the Regional Council in September 1979. Updates were approved in June 1986 and December 1993. In December 1996, the Regional Council approved the findings of an implementation study to carry out the RASP recommendations. Changing conditions have prompted the need to update the 1993 RASP, and the Regional Council authorized the submission of a funding application to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as a part of the FY 1998 Unified Planning Work Program. Preparations will need to be made to reactivate the MAG RASP Technical Advisory Committee and the MAG RASP Policy Committee, develop a Request for Proposals for the project and select a

13. For information, discussion and action to forward a letter to the Federal Aviation Administration urging funding of the grant application for the MAG Regional Aviation System Plan Update.

consultant to undertake the technical work.

FAA staff has recently indicated that the grant application to update the MAG Regional Aviation System Plan was not funded during the first half of the year because competing construction projects had a higher priority. More funds will become available in March of this year. It is requested that the Regional Council approve forwarding a letter to the FAA supporting the funding of the application. Please refer to the enclosed material.

GENERAL ITEMS

14. Initiation of MAG Video Conferencing Project

In 1999, MAG established a Teleconferencing and Telecommuting Program. The purpose of the program is to improve communication among member agencies, allow for more productive use of staff resources and relieve traffic congestion and air pollution. The first phase of this program is a Videoconferencing Project to produce an implementation plan for videoconferencing in the region. The project is being guided by the MAG Telecommunications Advisory Group (MAGTAG). On December 9, 1998, the Regional Council approved the selection of Norstan Inc. to undertake the videoconferencing project and a contract recently has been issued. To insure that we have the proper perspective of each member agency on the Videoconferencing Project, a letter was forwarded to MAG managers requesting that they review their jurisdiction's representation on the MAGTAG, and notify MAG of any additional individuals who should be consulted. Please refer to the enclosed material.

15. Recommendation to Support Uniformity in the Adoption of Uniform Building Codes

The MAG Building Codes Committee was established in 1968 to encourage and promote uniformity in the interpretation and enforcement of building, mechanical, plumbing and electrical codes adopted by its members. On November 18, 1998, the MAG Building Codes Committee recommended adopting the 1997 Uniform Building Code, the 1997 ICBO Mechanical Code, and the 1996 National Electrical Code. At a

14. For information and discussion.

15. For information, discussion and approval to support uniformity in building codes by adopting the Uniform Building Code, 1997 Edition Volumes I, II and III, the ICBO Uniform Mechanical Code 1997 edition, and the National Electric Code, 1996, with a target date for adoption of July 1, 1999.

December 15, 1998 MAG Valley Building Codes Stakeholders Meeting, elected officials and building industry representatives emphasized the need for their input in the development of uniform building codes. On December 16, 1998, the MAG Building Codes Committee recommended that member agencies set July 1, 1999 as a target for adopting the 1997 Uniform Building Code, 1997 ICBO Uniform Mechanical Code, and the 1996 NEC Amendments Building Codes. Please refer to the enclosed material.